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AB: We calculated in-situ and laboratory measurements of sound speed and attenuation in seafloor sediments from the shallow water delta of the Eel River, California. This region receives a substantial volume of fluvial sediment that is discharged annually onto the shell. Additionally, high input of fluvial sediments during storms generates flood deposits characterized by thin-beds of variable grain-sizes in water depths between 40 and 90 m. Main objectives of this study were (1) to investigate signatures of seafloor processes on geoacoustic and physical properties, and (2) to evaluate differences between geoacoustic parameters measured in-situ at acoustic (7.5 kHz) and in the laboratory at ultrasonic (400 kHz) frequencies. The in-situ acoustic measurements were conducted between the 60 and 100 isobath. Wet-bulk density and porosity profiules were obtained to 1.15 meters below seafloor (mbsf) using gravity cores of the mostly cohesive fine-grained sediments across- and along-shelf. Our physical and geoacoustic property measurements from six selected sites on the Eel margin showed: (1) Sound speed and wet-bulk density strongly correlated.		

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19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON

19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area

Michael Richardson

code) 228-688-4621

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In-situ Acoustic and Laboratory Ultrasonic

## Sound Speed and Attenuation Measured in Heterogeneous Seabed Sediments: Eel Margin, California

AU:

Gorgas, T J

EM:

tgorgas@soest.hawaii.edu

AF:

T.J. Gorgas, Department of Geology and Geophysics, University of

Hawaii, 1680 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96822 United States

AU:

Wilkens, R H

EM:

Roy.Wilkens@onr.navy.mil

AF:

R.H. Wilkens, Hawaii Institute of Geophyics and Planteology, University of Hawai'i, 2525 Correa Road Stennis Space Center, Honolulu, HI

96822 United States

AU:

Fu. S

EM:

ssfu@soest.hawaii.edu

AF:

R.H. Wilkens, Hawaii Institute of Geophyics and Planteology, University of Hawai'i, 2525 Correa Road Stennis Space Center, Honolulu, HI

96822 United States AU:

Frazer, NL

EM:

neil@soest.hawaii.edu

AF:

T.J. Gorgas, Department of Geology and Geophysics, University of

Hawaii, 1680 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96822 United States

AU:

Richardson, M D

EM:

mike.richardson@nrlssc.navy.mil

AF:

Mike D. Richardson, Marine Geosciences Division, Naval Research

Laboratory, Stennis Space Center, Stennis, MS 39529-500 United States

AU:

Briggs, KB

EM:

kevin.briggs@nrlssc.navy.mil

AF:

Mike D. Richardson, Marine Geosciences Division, Naval Research

Laboratory, Stennis Space Center, Stennis, MS 39529-500 United States

Lee, H AU:

H. Lee, Department of Geology and U.S. Geological Survey; Mail AF: Stop 999, 345 Middlefield Road, MS 999, Menlo Park, CA 94025 United States

We calculated in-situ and laboratory measurements of sound speed and attenuation in seafloor sediments from the shallow water delta of the Eel River, California. This region receives a substantial volume of fluvial sediment that is discharged annually onto the shelf. Additionally, high input of fluvial sediments during storms generates flood deposits characterized by thin-beds of variable grain-sizes in water depths between 40 and 90 m. Main objectives of this study were (1) to investigate signatures of seafloor processes on geoacoustic and physical properties, and (2) to evaluate differences between geoacoustic parameters measured in-situ at acoustic (7.5 kHz) and in the laboratory at ultrasonic (400 kHz) frequencies. The in-situ acoustic measurements were conducted between the 60 and 100 isobath. Wet-bulk density and porosity profiules were obtained to 1.15 meters below seafloor (mbsf) using gravity cores of the mostly cohesive fine-grained sediments across- and along-shelf. Our physical and geoacoustic property measurements from six selected sites on the Eel margin showed: (1) Sound speed and wet-bulk density strongly correlated. (2) In most cases, sediment compaction with depth led to increased sound speed and density and decreased porosity and in-situ attenuation values. (3) Scattering effects due to inhomogeneities caused higher ultrasonic attenuation when

measured in coarse-grained sediments. (4) Sound speed was higher in coarserthan finer-grained sediments on an average by 80 \${msec}^{-1}\$. (5) In coarsegrained sediments higher sound speed was measured in the laboratory (1560 \${msec}^{-1}\$) than in-situ (1520 \${msec}^{-1}\$). In contrast, average ultrasonic and in-situ sound speed in fine-grained sediments showed only little differences (both approx. 1480 \${msec}^{-1}\$). (6) Higher attenuation was commonly measured in the laboratory (0.4 and 0.8  ${dBm}^{-1}{kHz}_{-1}$ ) than in-situ (0.02 and 0.65  ${dBm}^{-1}{kHz}_{-1}$ , and remained almost constant below 0.4 mbsf. We attributed discrepancies between laboratory ultrasonic and in-situ acoustic measurements to frequency dependence of velocity and attenuation. In addition, laboratory attenuation was most likely enhanced due to scattering of sound waves at heterogeneities that were on the scale of ultrasonic wavelengths, while high in-situ attenuation values were linked to stratigraphic scattering at thin-bed layers that form along with flood deposits.

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Intricate BSR and Bright Spot distribution of

the Yaquina Forearc Basin, Peru

AU:

\* Huebscher, C P

EM:

huebscher@dkrz.de

AF:

University of Hamburg, Bundesstrasse 55, Hamburg, 20146

Germany

Greinert, J AU:

EM:

jgreinert@geomar.de

AF.

GEOMAR, Wischhofstrasse 1-3, Kiel, 24148 Germany

AU:

Kukowski, N

EM:

nina@gfz-potsdam.de

AF:

GeoForschungsZentrum GFZ, Telegrafenberg, Potsdam, 14473

Germany

Pecher, I A AU:

EM:

ingo@ig.utexas.edu

AF:

University of Texas, 412 Spicewood Springs Rd., Bldg. 600, Austin,

tx 78759-8500 United States

AU: AF:

Wagner, M

University of Hamburg, Bundesstrasse 55, Hamburg, 20146

Germany

AU:

Bialas, J

EM:

jbialas@geomar.de

AF:

GEOMAR, Wischhofstrasse 1-3, Kiel, 24148 Germany

In order to study the interaction between BSR occurrence, gas abundance, tectonic uplift, and sedimentation in the Yaquina Basin we carried out a high-resolution reflection seismic survey in the frame of the GEOPECO project (SONNE Leg 146). The Yaquina Basin is located between 8 deg. S and 10 deg. S on the midslope of the Andean Continental Margin. This part of the Peruvian Margin has undergone tectonic uplift and, subsequently subsidence by the oblique subduction of the Nazca Ridge. The seismic lines were tied to the ODP sites of Leg 112, which allows correlation between seismic data and core stratigraphy. We used GI-Gun sources to avoid misinterpretations due to bubble generation. The most striking observations have been made at the widest part of the basin at 8 deg. 30 min. S in water depth of about 900 m. Perpendicular to the slope a bright spot changes abruptly into a weak BSR. Several disrupted bright spots are resolved some 10 ms beneath the BSR, indicating strong vertical

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